

## IN THE CLAIMS

1 (currently amended): A process ~~Process~~ for the preparation of  $\text{LiAlH}_4$  solutions, in which solution comprising reacting lithium hydride reacts with an aluminium halide in diethyl ether to give yield lithium aluminium hydride, and the removing any lithium halide which arises ~~is separated off, characterised in that~~ formed during the reacting, adding a solvent with which the complexing energy of which with  $\text{LiAlH}_4$  is greater than the complexing energy of diethyl ether with  $\text{LiAlH}_4$  ~~is then added, and the~~ removing diethyl ether ~~is removed by~~ distillation to yield the  $\text{LiAlH}_4$  solution.

2 (currently amended): The process ~~Process~~ according to Claim 1, characterised ~~in that one or more ethers are utilised as the solvent~~ wherein said solvent is at least one ether other than diethyl ether.

3 (currently amended): The process ~~Process~~ according to Claim 1 ~~or 2,~~ characterised ~~in that~~ wherein said solvent is selected from the group consisting of tetrahydrofuran (THF), 2-methyltetrahydrofuran or an ether from the group comprising 2- methyltetrahydrofuran, and an ethyl glycol. ~~ethers (such as monoglycol dimethyl ether, monoglycol diethyl ether, diglycol dimethyl ether, diglycol diethyl ether or diglycol dibutyl ether) is utilised as the solvent~~

4 (currently amended): The process ~~Process~~ according to ~~one of Claims 1 to 3,~~ characterised ~~in that~~ Claim 1, wherein said aluminum halide is  $\text{AlCl}_3$  is utilised as the aluminium halide.

5 (currently amended): The process ~~Process~~ according to ~~one of Claims 1 to 4,~~ characterised ~~in that the synthesis~~ Claim 1, wherein solution of  $\text{LiAlH}_4$  in diethyl ether is concentrated by distilling off the diethyl ether.

6 (currently amended): The process ~~Process~~ according to ~~one of Claims 1 to 5, characterised in that~~ Claim 1, wherein a quantity of solvent at least equivalent (on a molar basis) to the residual diethyl ether quantity is added.

7 (currently amended): The process ~~Process~~ according to ~~one of Claims 1 to 6, characterised in that~~ Claim 5, wherein the diethyl ether is distilled off under vacuum at temperatures of from 40 to 80°C.

8 (currently amended): The process ~~Process~~ according to Claim 7, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the distillation takes place at temperatures of from 55 to 65°C.

9 (currently amended): The process ~~Process~~ according to ~~one of Claims 1 to 8, characterised in that~~ Claim 1, wherein the  $\text{LiAlH}_4$  solution is diluted with a hydrocarbon.